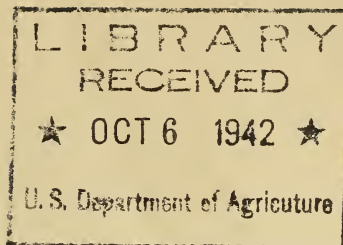


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REPORT
OF THE
WAR RELIEF ASSOCIATION
OF THE
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The War Relief Association of the Department of Agriculture, organized November 15, 1917, with Mrs. David F. Houston, President, has continued its activities from that date to the present time. This has been possible through the generous cooperation of the employees of the Department who subscribed, between December, 1917, and December, 1918, a sum totaling \$18,785.66. Contributions received at intervals since that time, and interest on bank deposits, have brought the total up to \$18,839.43. A report is now offered setting forth in concrete form the achievements of the organization in order that the men and women who provided this fund may be informed of the use to which it has been put.

The work now in progress, and which will be continued as long as money is available in the treasury, is that among the soldier and sailor patients at St. Elizabeth's Hospital. A detailed report of this work follows. A summary is here given of the work accomplished by the Association during the war period and immediately following, most of which it was not necessary to continue longer than a few months after the signing of the armistice. It will be noted that some of the work listed required only the service of the members of the Association and no expenditure of its funds.

- KNITTING:** 8,400 garments made and distributed since September, 1917, over 2,000 of them to men entering the service from this Department, or to members of employees' families. Since the armistice, wool and knitted garments given to Italian and Servian Relief Committees, and to the Tuberculosis Hospital of the District of Columbia. Two sock knitting machines given to Walter Reed Hospital.
- SURGICAL DRESSINGS:** 3 work rooms in operation until December, 1918, produced 46,488 dressings, the work being done by employees between 4.30 and 6.00 each day, and by members of families of employees before 4.30. Instructors' classes conducted, in turn, supplying instructors for other work rooms in the city.
- GARMENTS:** Approximately 10,000 hospital and refugee garments made by Department employees from materials purchased by the Association. Materials and garments on hand after Red Cross ceased distributing given to local hospitals.

BOOKS AND	1,700 books (all donated) were sent to headquarters
SCRAP BOOKS:	of Library War Service; 925 scrap books made and sent to nearby hospitals.
ENTERTAINMENT:	Committee looked after entertainment of men in uniform in the homes of Department employees, and arranged dances and other forms of entertainment for them.
WAR ORPHANS:	114 war orphans supported by Department employees or members of their families.
FOOD	2,236 quarts of preserves, jams, and jellies were
CONSERVATION:	made from surplus produce from Arlington Farm, and sent to Walter Reed Hospital.
NURSING:	180 women employees of the Department volunteered for nursing during the influenza epidemic in 1918, one third of whom actually took charge of influenza cases.
RED CROSS	4,069.00 collected in memberships in 1917-1918 in
MEMBERSHIPS:	the Department.

Previous to the organization of this Association employees of the Department subscribed a sum of money sufficient to purchase for use in France five ambulances and one kitchen trailer. Of these one ambulance was furnished by employees of the Bureau of Markets, and two by the employees of the Forest Service who also did much other relief work of various kinds.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

(December, 1917, to April, 1920, inclusive)

RECEIPTS

Accounts and Disbursements.....	\$ 59.85
Animal Industry.....	1,735.45
Biological Survey.....	154.85
Chemistry.....	814.00
Insecticide and Fungicide Board.....	133.00
Crop Estimates.....	430.15
Entomology.....	435.85
Farm Management.....	509.55
Federal Horticultural Board.....	170.45
Forest Service.....	1,911.70
Markets.....	3,881.36
Library.....	219.25
Plant Industry.....	3,269.87
Publications.....	302.26
Public Roads.....	263.90
Secretary's Office.....	1,566.60
Soils.....	208.15
States Relations Service.....	1,292.09
Weather Bureau.....	479.76
Miscellaneous.....	920.91
Interest July 1, 1918.....	9.79
Interest January 1, 1919.....	21.27
Interest July 1, 1919.....	29.94
Interest January 1, 1920.....	19.43

\$18,839.43

EXPENDITURES

Knitting.....	\$ 7,753.44
Garments.....	4,815.05
Surgical Dressings.....	1,743.00
Books and Scrap Books.....	55.12
Food Conservation.....	527.24
Miscellaneous*.....	578.24
Meetings.....	16.50
War Orphans.....	5.50
Soldier and Sailor Patient Work.....	2,398.17
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	\$17,892.26
Balance.....	947.17
	<hr/>
	\$18,839.43

CORNELIA P. LYNE,
Treasurer.

*Miscellaneous expenditures include one item of \$150, paid to Mr. R. M. Reese, to cover the funeral expenses of Miss Jett; one item of \$150 to Mrs. Evans, matron of Walter Reed Hospital, for Christmas celebration, in 1918; and one item of \$250 to the fund for Relief in the Near East.

After the armistice, when the need for the kind of work then in progress ceased, it was decided by the Executive Committee of the Association to devote a certain amount of money each month to assisting the soldier and sailor patients at St. Elizabeth's Hospital. Such good results were obtained that it was later decided to devote practically the entire fund remaining in the treasury of the Association to that purpose. This work is in charge of a committee composed of Mrs. R. M. Reese, chairman, Miss Carrie M. Davis, and Mrs. M. B. Berryhill. The report of the Committee follows.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR WORK AMONG SOLDIER AND SAILOR PATIENTS AT ST. ELIZABETH'S HOSPITAL, FEBRUARY 1, 1919 to FEBRUARY 1, 1920.

SUMMARY

Sunday suppers served at Trinity Community House.....	49
Sunday treats at the hospital (instead of supper).....	3
Number of extra parties participated in.....	8
Number of automobile parties given.....	3
Average attendance of helpers at suppers.....	14
Number of individual suppers served (approximately).....	5,000
Number of visits to hospital.....	49
Number of looms presented to the Occupational Therapy Department of hospital.....	2

No record has been kept of the number of magazines, books, or Victrola records presented, but the number has been large.

The work of this Committee has been divided into two classes—the "shut in" and the recreational work.

The "shut in" work has consisted in visiting in the wards those patients not well enough to go out. For such patients candy, fruits, ice cream, and other delicacies have been provided, enough for one hundred and twenty men each time. Grapes and apples for this purpose have been furnished by the Arlington Farm. Fudge, cake and shortcake have been made by a group of girls of the Central High School, this Association paying for the materials. These girls have also made salad dressing a number of times.

Books in foreign languages, magazines, games, and balls have been provided for the "shut in" patients, and two looms for rug weaving, one medicine ball, and two croquet sets have also been given to the hospital.

By far the largest and most successful part of the work has been that of the recreational division. This division has served supper every Sunday evening for a year, with three exceptions when the boys were unable to leave the hospital. On these three occasions ice cream and other delicacies were sent to them there. In carrying on the supper work the Association has had the cooperation of Trinity Community House, which has placed its building freely at the service of the Committee.

The Committee has cooperated also with other organizations in giving Easter, Fourth of July, and Halloween parties at the hospital and at Trinity Community House.

The most sumptuous meal served was the Thanksgiving dinner of 1919. The cost of this dinner was defrayed entirely by employees of the Internal Revenue Bureau, the preparation and service being performed jointly by the women of the Internal Revenue Bureau and the Department of Agriculture. One hundred and twenty pounds of turkey were cooked for this dinner and one hundred and thirty-five persons were served.

Other notable occasions were the Sunday supper following Christmas, 1919, and the anniversary supper, February 1, 1920, *i.e.*, the anniversary of the commencement of this work for soldier and sailor patients at St. Elizabeth's Hospital. At that supper one hundred persons were served.

The plan at present is to serve the Sunday suppers at Trinity Community House the second and fourth Sunday of each month, with parties occasionally at the hospital. On this basis the work can be continued until February 1, 1921, with money already in the treasury.

The committee takes this opportunity to urge all members of the War Relief Association who have made possible the accomplishment of so unusual a piece of reconstruction work, to attend the suppers at Trinity Community House and inspect the work. The Committee believes that this work is unique, that never before has so large a group of business men and women united in a similar service for the mentality afflicted.

May 20, 1920.



